

### **REMARKS**

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed on June 20, 2006, in which claims 12-22 were pending. Claim 12 was rejected and claims 13-22 were objected to in the Office Action. By this response, claim 12 is amended. Claims 13 and 15 are canceled. New claim 23 is submitted. Entry of this amendment and reconsideration and allowance of the application are requested.

#### **Objection to Claim 12**

Claim 12 was objected to on the basis of an informality involving repeated words. By this response, claim 12 has been amended to eliminate the repeated words. Withdrawal of the objection is requested.

#### **Objection to Claim 13**

Claim 13 was objected to on the basis of an informality involving antecedent basis. This objection is now moot in view of the cancellation of claim 13.

#### **Objection to Claim 15**

Claim 13 was objected to on the basis of an informality involving antecedent basis. This objection is now moot in view of the cancellation of claim 15.

#### **§ 102 Rejection Based on Symons Patent**

The Office Action rejected claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,886,857 to Symons et al. The Office Action objected to claims 13-22 as dependent upon the rejected base claim 12 but stated claims 13-22 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. (Although the Office Action described claims 13-21 as objected to, the Office Action Summary listed claims 13-22 as objected to.) The indication that claims 13-22

are directed to allowable subject matter is appreciated. By this response, claim 13 has been canceled and claim 12 amended to effectively incorporate the features of claim 13. Claim 15 has also been canceled. Withdrawal of the rejection to claims 12, 14, and 16-22 is requested in view of these amendments.

**New Claim 23**

New independent claim 23 is submitted by this response. Claim 23 is substantially similar in scope to dependent claim 16 presented in the Amendment submitted on October 7, 2005, and indicated to be allowable in the Office Action of December 29, 2005. Consideration and allowance of claim 23 is requested.

**Conclusion**

Pending claims 12, 14, and 16-23 are now in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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